GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3185
ANSWERED ON:21.03.2007
AMENDMENT IN INTERNATIONAL LONG DISTANCE LICENCE
Jindal Shri Naveen;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has any proposal to amend all International Long Distance (ILD) licences for setting the stage for Cable Landing Stations (CLS) and interconnection related reforms;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith reasons therefor;

(c) whether the operators have signed the amendments proposed by the Government;

(d) if so, the reaction of the operators in this regard; and

(e) the benefits that are likely to accrue to the consumers?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD)

(a) & (b) Sir. In exercise of powers confirmed on the licensor by Condition 12 of the terms and conditions of the ILD Licence, an amendment to ILD Licence has been made effective from 15.01.2007 regarding equal access to bottleneck facility at the Cable Landing Stations, including landing facilities for submarine cables. The details of amendment so issued is given in the Annexure.

(c) & (d) The amendment so issued has been signed by all the operators without any reservation.

(e) The sharing of Cable Landing Station (CLS) will reduce the cost by effective and efficient utilization of resources and will introduce effective competitive in the market resulting into reduction to tariff and ultimate benefit to the consumers.